The Resolution was passed *nem. con.*, all the Members standing in silence for a few minutes.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I shall convey this to the members of the bereaved family.

III.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Grants for substitutes appointed in the place of teachers going on earned leave

* 102 *Q.*—SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance and Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that a circular has been issued in Tiruchirappalli East Range that no assessment of grant will be made for substitutes appointed for a month or less in the place of teachers going on earned leave in aided elementary schools in the Range;

(*b*) whether any representations have been received by the Government in the matter; and

(*c*) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAN : (*a*) It is a fact that a circular was issued by the Deputy Inspector of Schools, Tiruchirappalli East Range, to the effect that the posting of substitutes in short vacancies of a month and less should be discouraged and that if appointments were made contrary to these instructions, no grant would be assessed for the substitutes.

(*b*) Yes, Sir, by the District Educational Officer of the district.

(*c*) The circular was not cancelled, as the instructions issued were considered to be only advisory and also because it was felt that such instructions were necessary.

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHI : Have the Government made sure that no teacher who desired leave during this interval of 15–16 months since this circular was issued has been affected?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : I cannot give a categorical assurance that nobody has been affected. If, however, any specific case is brought to the notice of the Government, we shall look into the matter. After all, the circular is advisory.

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHI : Will the Government, therefore, kindly instruct the withdrawal of that circular as it is a peculiar circular which denies certain facilities granted by the Government under the usual leave rules?

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THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : After taking everything into account, it has been considered by the Director of Public Instruction that indiscriminate appointments of such substitutes in short leave vacancies should be avoided, and the Government also agree with that view.

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHI : Will the Government kindly see that the same rule which is applied to teachers in all ranges in the State is applied to the teachers in the Tiruchirappalli East Range also and that there is no discrimination against anybody with regard to allowance for substitutes to be appointed in vacancies lasting a month or less?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : Yes, Sir. I will make the rule applicable to all the districts.

SRI T. P. SRINIVASAVARADAN : May I draw the attention of the Hon. Minister to the fact that in the case of aided secondary schools, substitutes are allowed if the leave taken is for more than three weeks? The Government's objection seems to be that if the leave taken is for less than a month, the substitute and the permanent teacher will get grant. So, it seems that they want that the posting of substitutes in short vacancies of a month and less should be discouraged. Will the Government kindly see that the rules are uniformly applied and the grant is allowed in both the cases?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : Yes, if the principle is accepted that we have to fix some minimum for this. We shall see how it could be done and pass such orders as may be necessary. I shall try to make a uniform scale applicable to all.

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHI : May I know what rule the Hon. Minister has promised to make uniform?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : Instead of this one month, to make it three weeks.

TRUTH ALONE TRIUMPHS

Protection of Tiruchendur temple against erosion by sea

* 103 *Q*.—SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments and Transport be pleased to state the steps taken by the Government to protect the Tiruchendur temple against the erosion by sea?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN : The Government had already examined the matter in detail in 1952–53 and considered the question of constructing a sea screen wall to check erosion. Such a wall was, however, considered unnecessary. The Commissioner, Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Administration) Department has now reported, in consultation with the Public Works Department, that there is no risk to the temple. The Government are alive to the need for meeting any such risk if it should arise in future.